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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7045
INFO RUEHAD/AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI 0236
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 5211
RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA 2764
RUEHDO/AMEMBASSY DOHA 0271
RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD 2103
RUEHBUL/AMEMBASSY KABUL 0627
RUEHKU/AMEMBASSY KUWAIT 0385
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 2178
RUEHMK/AMEMBASSY MANAMA 0190
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 2517
RUEHMS/AMEMBASSY MUSCAT 0107
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI 8580
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 6262
RUEHRH/AMEMBASSY RIYADH 0593
RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME 2161
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 1207
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C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 002434

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR SCA/A SINGH
OSD FOR BASALLA

E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/04/2018
TAGS: [PREL](#) [AF](#) [JA](#)
SUBJECT: JAPAN ON EXPANSION OF AFGHAN NATIONAL ARMY

REF: STATE 93225

Classified By: Charge d'Affaires Jim Zumwalt for reasons 1.4(b) and (d)

11. (C) Japan will support a call by Afghanistan at the September 10 Joint Coordination Board Meeting for the expansion of the Afghan National Army to an authorized strength of 134,000, according to MOFA Second Middle East Division Principal Deputy Director Motosada Matano. However, Japan will have difficulty responding to any subsequent appeals for funding to support the expansion due to Japanese policy that circumscribes the provision of assistance for military purposes.

12. (C) Matano said Tokyo continues to consider our standing request for funds to support law enforcement and other initiatives in Afghanistan, but that recent political turmoil in Tokyo, including Prime Minister Fukuda's resignation announcement, will make this more difficult. He said MOFA has been working hard for the past month to put together a funding package for Afghanistan that would have been part of a supplemental budget to be passed this fall during an extraordinary Diet session. However, given Fukuda's resignation and domestic political preoccupation with funding an economic stimulus package, he judges it unlikely the Diet will be in the mood to approve any additional funds for Afghanistan at this time. The next opportunity to consider such funding would come in the next regular Diet session, which would normally begin in January. MOFA National Security Division Principal Deputy Director Shingo Miyamoto concurred that this course of events is a likely one, but cautioned that it is difficult to tell for certain what will or will not be included in the supplementary budget. He said there is still a possibility that funding for Afghanistan may be addressed.
ZUMWALT